

Guidance Documents

Introduction

This section contains information concerning guidance documents and examples of Resource Management Systems (RMS) by land use and program related conservation systems.

A guidance document contains several alternative combinations of conservation practices and management measures that meet the quality criteria for solving resource concerns common to a land use in a specific area. In developing guidance documents, consider the effects that practices and management measures have on soil, water, air, plant and animal resources in addition to social, economic and cultural constraints.

Guidance documents will be used as guidance to develop planning information for a farm, tract, field, or designated planning unit. Statewide examples are provided for specific land uses. Field office examples should be developed when conditions and needs justify further clarification and documentation.

Site concerns will determine the column headings (problems) for consideration for each of the five resources. Conservation Practice Physical Effects (CPPE) from *Section V*, FOTG, should guide the development of RMSs. These considerations may vary from site to site and with land use, but should be fairly constant over a county.

The effects shown on the matrices of the Guidance Documents are indicators of the effect a specific practice has on a given resource concern or problem. The indicator meanings are shown below:

Symbol	Effect	Definition
-	Detrimental	Long term negative effect on the resource problem
O	Negligible	Essentially no effect, or minor effects
+	Beneficial	Meaningful positive effect
++	Significant	Considerable positive effect
F	Facilitating	Supporting practice that facilitates another practice